



Department of Homeland Security Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 28 September 2005

Current
Nationwide
Threat Level is

ELEVATED
SIGNIFICANT RISK OF
TERRORIST ATTACKS

[For info click here](http://www.dhs.gov/)

<http://www.dhs.gov/>

Daily Highlights

- The University of Nebraska Extension has a new mobile lab equipped with molecular diagnostic tools and satellite transmission that is able to diagnose crop diseases on-site, thus responding immediately to any potential agrosecurity threat. (See item [17](#))
- Reuters reports scientists in Singapore say they have developed a test kit that can detect bird flu infections in poultry within four hours, which could help health officials control the spread of the deadly virus. (See item [23](#))
- The Associated Press reports a new report by the Pew Hispanic Center says the pace of illegal immigration to the United States has increased despite tighter security measures. (See item [35](#))

DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report *Fast Jump*

Production Industries: [Energy](#); [Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials](#); [Defense Industrial Base](#)

Service Industries: [Banking and Finance](#); [Transportation and Border Security](#); [Postal and Shipping](#)

Sustenance and Health: [Agriculture](#); [Food](#); [Water](#); [Public Health](#)

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Other: [Commercial Facilities/Real Estate, Monument & Icons](#); [General](#); [DHS Daily Report Contact Information](#)

Energy Sector

Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: Physical: ELEVATED, Cyber: ELEVATED

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) – <http://www.esisac.com>]

1. *September 27, Reuters* — **Oil dips on signs of plentiful supplies.** Oil edged lower Tuesday, September 27, on signs that crude supplies remain plentiful, even with all U.S. Gulf of Mexico oil output locked in after Hurricane Rita. At 6:20 a.m. EDT, U.S. crude fell 60 cents to \$65.22 a barrel, pulling back from early gains as high as \$66.17 that came after Monday's 2.5 percent

rally. London Brent crude fell 61 cents to \$63.32 a barrel. Rita was the second major hurricane in a month to strike U.S. oil facilities, coming after Katrina knocked out four refineries and battered crude platforms. Five U.S. refineries suffered serious damage after being hit by Rita. The Department of Energy said Monday that about 25 percent of overall U.S. oil refining capacity, or 4.4 million barrels per day was shut due to the two hurricanes. Many refineries plan to resume operations in a few days, but at least two large plants in Port Arthur, TX, are expected to remain shut for repairs that could take up to a month. Offshore drilling companies said several rigs were missing and Chevron Corp. said a major oil production platform had been severely damaged.

Source: <http://money.cnn.com/2005/09/27/markets/oil.reut/index.htm?cnn=yes>

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Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials Sector

2. *September 27, Ocala Star-Banner (FL)* — **Diesel fuel spill fouls Florida interstate traffic for hours.** A diesel fuel spill left Interstate-75 traffic in gridlock Monday afternoon, September 26, from northern Marion County, FL, to Gainesville, FL, after a tractor-trailer crashed through a guard rail in the median and careened into oncoming traffic. About 100 gallons spilled from its ruptured fuel tank. One driver suffered minor injuries in the accident, which began after her car ran underneath the rear tires of the northbound 18-wheeler, according to Florida Highway Patrol officials. The truck, with a 200-gallon fuel tank, was hauling vehicle parts. It came to rest in the southbound lanes near the 371-mile marker in Orange Lake, FL, blocking all three lanes. Southbound traffic was tied up for more than three and a half hours as the spilled fuel was mopped up. The 100 gallons of fuel remaining in the truck's gas tank had to be removed before the truck could be towed. The ensuing mess snarled traffic for hours and brought out several agencies, including the Florida Department of Transportation, the Marion County Sheriff's Office, Marion County Fire-Rescue and its hazardous materials team. Lanes reopened to traffic about 2:45 p.m. EDT.

Source: <http://www.ocala.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20050927/NEWS/209270308/1001/news01>

3. *September 27, Tri-City Herald (WA)* — **Nuclear fuel plant cargo container falls off truck.** A cargo container filled with about 4.5 tons of uranium oxide powder fell off a truck leaving Richland, WA's Framatome ANP nuclear fuel plant Monday, September 26, but company and state officials said there was no sign the toxic material inside had escaped. Still, company officials closed down roads leading to its plant at 2101 Horn Rapids Road while they tried to determine if the radioactive material's containers had been breached. The accident happened about 3 p.m. PDT when the cargo container fell from a flatbed truck as it pulled out of the plant's gate, said Chris Powers, a project manager for Framatome, which also is known as Areva. "We have no information about a release or breach of the container," Powers said. Powers and a state radiation expert agreed that the uranium oxide material did not present an immediate health threat. Radiation detectors showed no contamination at the tipped container itself or in the Framatome plant, said Al Conklin, a health physicist with the Washington state Department of Health's radiation protection office. Conklin said his office would continue monitoring the site for signs of contamination, but added that it appeared Framatome's response had been "appropriate."

Source: <http://www.tri-cityherald.com/tch/local/story/7018495p-6921033c.html>

4. *September 25, Houston Chronicle* — **Ammonia release prompts temporary evacuation of nearby neighborhood.** An ammonia release on Sunday, September 25, at a Heights-area, TX, orange drink company sent at least three employees to the hospital and resulted in the temporary evacuation of nearby homes, officials said. The ammonia was detected about 10 a.m. CDT at Cal-Tex Citrus in the 400 block of Yale. "They had an over pressurization in one of the ammonia lines and it vented through the central relief valve," said Houston Fire Department District Chief Jack Williams. Williams didn't know what caused the initial build-up of ammonia, but said the relief valve system worked as it was supposed to. Police cordoned off the area around the business as local residents were warned to leave. After an initial assessment, those still remaining in their homes were advised to stay in place. Hazmat teams went inside the building and shut off the valve. The three employees were taken to the hospital for precautionary reasons. "They had some exposure to the ammonia," Williams said. At least two other people who live near the plant were examined at the scene, officials said.

Source: <http://www.chron.com/cs/CDA/ssistory.mpl/metropolitan/3368894>

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

5. *September 27, Information Week* — **Pentagon looks to streamline supply chain.** The Department of Defense (DoD) is working to accelerate its supply chain so that soldiers in the field have materials they need when they need them, the Pentagon's director of supply chain transformation said Tuesday, September 27. Reorganization and realignment of core business processes is one of the main efforts to revolutionize the supply chain, ensuring a streamlined approach to procurement. For example, the department wants to have an enterprise-wide system in place to watch existing contracts in order to eliminate redundant ones. As technology constantly evolves and systems become quickly outdated, the Pentagon wants faster, more efficient turnaround from research to deployment. Information technology companies could well expect to be in on this transformation, and analysis group INPUT expects a \$1.2 billion growth in IT contracts from the DoD over the next five years to \$8.4 billion by 2010. DoD also wants to know that materials are available and easy to locate when they already exist.

Source: <http://www.informationweek.com/showArticle.jhtml;jsessionid=GQVRKPDLOMJDKQSNDBGCKHSCJUMKJVN?articleID=171200732>

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Banking and Finance Sector

6. *September 27, Fine Extra* — **Standard Chartered Bank signs for anti-money laundering software.** Standard Chartered Bank is implementing an anti-money laundering system from Dublin-based Norkom Technologies across its global operations. Under the deal, the bank will install Norkom's transaction monitoring and watch list management software across operations in more than 50 countries. This software is intended to enable Standard Chartered to detect, analyze, intercept and report suspicious and criminal activity. The system will monitor banking

transactions, both in real-time and batch mode, to identify suspicious behavior. Alerts, prioritized in terms of importance and populated with the necessary information, will then be forwarded to Standard Chartered's analyst teams for investigation. The bank will also use the platform to screen transactions against various watch lists that have been established by the bank and by the regulatory authorities in each country. The anti-money laundering system will identify transactions to or from individuals, organizations or countries that are viewed as "high risk", prioritizing investigations so that the bank can focus its attention first on those that represent the greatest risk.

Norkom Technologies: <http://www.norkom.com/>

Source: <http://www.finextra.com/fullstory.asp?id=14307>

7. *September 26, Fine Extra* — **ATM skimming gang arrested in Australia.** Police in Australia have arrested four men who allegedly stole hundreds of thousands of dollars from bank accounts in an ATM card skimming scam. According to press reports, Sydney, Australia, police arrested Bulgarian nationals Sotirov Svilen Marinov, 27, and Gueorgui Dinkov, 24, as they allegedly tried to retrieve skimming devices from targeted ATMs. Two other men, Canadian nationals Christo Sotirov, 45, and Assen Dotchev, 22 were arrested in another part of the city. Police says more than \$100,000 cash was seized at a property in the Dee Why area of Sydney. Detective Inspector Mark Rudolph told reporters that a large number of ATMs were fitted with a skimming device hidden behind a false fascia. The gang also attached small cameras to ATMs, or hid them nearby, to record customers' PINs. The gang then used cloned cards and PINs to withdraw funds from bank accounts and are thought to have sent the stolen money to accounts in Canada and Bulgaria. According to some reports, over \$603,658 U.S. dollars were stolen from ANZ Bank accounts by the gang. The total amount stolen from other banks is not yet known.

Source: <http://www.finextra.com/fullstory.asp?id=14305>

8. *September 26, The Register (United Kingdom)* — **Tiscali Internet service provider is target of United Kingdom consumer data security breach.** Tiscali has apologized after a data security breach left the name, address, contact information and product order of random customers displayed to other subscribers of the Internet service provider (ISP) on Friday, September 23. The United Kingdom ISP sent out an email to its customers to accompany the launch of new broadband products offering them the opportunity to re-grade their current service package. Clicking on a link in the email took subscribers to the re-grade login page on Tiscali's Website. But after subscribers logged into their accounts they were presented with someone else's details. Subsequent attempts to login produced someone else's details each time. "There was a scripting error with the site, which we took offline and fixed. The service has now been restored," a Tiscali spokesperson explained. She added that the error was confined to Friday and limited to name and address data.

Tiscali re-grade login page: <http://www.tiscali.co.uk/members/myaccount/upgrade/upgrade.html>

Source: http://www.theregister.co.uk/2005/09/26/tiscali_data_security_flap/

9. *September 26, Messaging Pipeline* — **Study shows messaging makes financial industry vulnerable to compliance breaches.** Orchestra said Tuesday, September 27, that according to its survey of U.S. financial services firm employees' electronic communications, such as e-mail, instant messaging, Webmail, blogs, chat rooms and handhelds, present a significant

threat to the security of intellectual property and also risk violations of compliance with corporate and regulatory policy. Survey respondents included employees of all levels from various types of financial institutions across the industry. "In an industry where protecting intellectual property plays a key role in the health of the business, it is troubling that more than 75 percent of the employees surveyed felt that it would be easy to send proprietary information outside of the company," said Orchestra CEO Bo Manning. Few respondents have knowingly sent electronic communication that was in violation of policy, a finding that supports the theory that most policy breaches are due to a misunderstanding of policy rather than malicious intent. In addition, over 75 percent of survey respondents stated that they have received inappropriate communication at work. Just over half of the respondents have had training in company policy regarding use of electronic communication.

Orchestra Press Release: <http://www.orchestria.com/no-plugin/news/press-releases/september-05b.htm>

Source: <http://www.messagingpipeline.com/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=171200646>

10. *September 26, The Register (United Kingdom)* — **Four arrested in United Kingdom phone scam probe.** Four men have been arrested in connection with a premium-rate phone scam in the United Kingdom that police reckon could have netted an estimated \$10,600,000. The four were arrested on suspicion of conspiracy to defraud customers of the telephone network, police said in a statement. The investigation is focusing on a scam in which people were called and told they had won an expensive prize. To claim their winnings, though, punters had to call a premium rate phone number which led to them racking up large phone bills. Few people, if any, actually received their "prize." City of London Police and the Serious Fraud Office searched six addresses in Cambridge, Basingstoke and North London last week before seizing a large number of computer records and files.

Source: http://www.theregister.co.uk/2005/09/26/premium_rate/

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Transportation and Border Security Sector

11. *September 27, Boston Globe* — **Logan considers easing way for frequent fliers.** Boston's Logan International Airport is taking a serious look at becoming the second airport in the country to create its own "registered traveler" system that would allow frequent fliers to bypass long security lines. An existing program — involving more than 1,800 American Airlines frequent fliers — will end on Friday, September 30. Over the past year, Logan has been one of five airports where the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) has tested a "registered traveler" program that allows passengers to use a special security lane that can often be faster because there are fewer people using it. In the pilot, the TSA invited members of American Airlines' AAdvantage frequent-flier plan who regularly fly at least once a week to participate by supplying personal data such as a Social Security number, their last five years' home addresses, and scans of their irises and index finger tips. The TSA runs a criminal background check, and travelers it approves for registered status use the special security lane. Phil Orlandella, a spokesperson for the Massachusetts Port Authority (Massport), which runs Logan, says that officials are studying whether such a program can be extended permanently by Massport and extended to other airlines.

Source: http://www.boston.com/business/articles/2005/09/27/logan_con

12. *September 27, Reuters* — **US Airways, America West complete merger.** US Airways Group Inc. and America West Airlines closed their merger on Tuesday, September 27, creating a company that plans to mix low-cost efficiency with the reach and service of a bigger carrier. The new airline has numerous hurdles to overcome, including a poor industry record for mergers, continued high fuel prices, and the challenge of combining thousands of unionized pilots, flight attendants and mechanics into one work force over the next two years. The airline will employ nearly 40,000 people. The deal worth more than \$1.5 billion lifts old US Airways out of bankruptcy after a yearlong restructuring. It also tests the leadership and vision of Parker, a rising industry star whose decision last spring to embrace a failing and much bigger US Airways was questioned by many industry insiders. The carrier launches service during one of the industry's most tumultuous moments with three other major U.S. airlines operating in bankruptcy protection.

Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/reuters/business/business-airlines-us-airways-america-west.html>

13. *September 26, USA TODAY* — **Independence Air will cut more than half of its flights.** Struggling low-fare start-up Independence Air is cutting daily departures by more than half in a bid to avoid bankruptcy court. Battered by high fuel prices and fare wars, Virginia-based Independence Air said Monday, September 26, it will cut daily departures in October to between 225 and 250 from a peak of 600 last October. Based at Washington Dulles airport, Independence will halt cross-country flights. Now, the carrier flies between Dulles and Los Angeles, San Diego, Seattle and San Francisco. It will stop serving Cleveland, Indianapolis and Louisville. Flights to Las Vegas will continue. Independence, which launched in June 2004, was the first "low-fare" carrier to use 50-seat regional jets. But Independence spokesperson Rick DeLisi said Independence is trying to reduce use of the 50-seaters because they aren't as cost-effective as Airbus jets carrying 132, at current high fuel prices.

Source: http://www.usatoday.com/travel/news/2005-09-26-flyi-usat_x.htm

14. *September 26, Department of Homeland Security* — **US VISIT begins deployment of biometric entry procedures to additional land border ports of entry with Canada and Mexico.** The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) announced on Monday, September 26, the scheduled expansion of the US VISIT program's biometric entry procedures to additional land border ports of entry. US-VISIT entry procedures have been operational in the secondary inspection areas of the 50 busiest land border ports of entry since December 29, 2004, and are also in place at 115 airports and 15 seaports. No changes will be made to the US-VISIT process or to the classifications of visitors subject to US-VISIT as the result of this expansion to added locations. US-VISIT applies to all visitors who apply for entry with a nonimmigrant visa, including those using a Border Crossing Card to travel beyond the border zone or for more than 30 days, or under the Visa Waiver program. As part of the process, Customs and Border Protection officers collect digital, inkless finger scans and take a digital photo of the visitor. Listed on this Website are the additional land border ports of entry that will begin using US-VISIT biometric entry procedures, including dates of deployment, which will be completed by December 31, 2005.

Source: <http://www.dhs.gov/dhspublic/display?content=4858>

15. *September 26, Department of Transportation* — **Department of Transportation assessing cost of road clearance.** The Department of Transportation is working with state and local officials to assess the cost of road clearing so emergency relief funds can be made available in the wake of Hurricane Rita, Department of Transportation Secretary Norman Y. Mineta announced on Monday, September 26. Mineta added that transportation equipment needed to restore normal travel patterns in the area survived Hurricane Rita largely unscathed, including air traffic control facilities at most of the region's commercial airports. Road crews are working throughout Texas and Louisiana clearing debris — including trees and power lines — from highways and bridges. Mineta noted that the Department is working with highway officials from both states to estimate the final cost of clearing the region's highways in order to begin providing needed emergency relief funds to help pay for the work. The Department stands by to provide any additional support that may be requested by the Federal Emergency Management Agency or from state and local officials, Mineta added.
Source: <http://www.dot.gov/affairs/dot13805.htm>

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Postal and Shipping Sector

16. *September 27, Associated Press* — **Postal Service expects \$2B deficit in 2006.** Even with a planned postage rate increase, the U.S. Postal Service expects to go nearly \$2 billion in the red next year. Postal Chief Financial Officer Richard J. Strasser told the agency's board of governors on Tuesday, September 27, that rising costs will result in a \$1.8 billion deficiency in 2006. The agency plans a 5.4 percent rate increase in January 2006, which would raise the cost of sending a first-class letter by two cents — to 39 cents. "We project revenue of \$72.3 billion, an increase of 3.4 percent, to be offset by a like percentage increase in expenses," he said. Strasser said the agency plans cost reductions of \$1.1 billion, including work-hour reductions of 42 million hours. But, he noted, the post office also faces a congressionally imposed requirement to place \$3.1 billion in an escrow account. Strasser also noted that costs are now expected to be higher than originally planned when the rate increase was approved by the board. The postal fiscal year begins October 1.
Source: http://www.boston.com/news/nation/washington/articles/2005/09/27/postal_service_expects_2b_deficit_in_06/

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Agriculture Sector

17. *September 26, Agriculture Online* — **Mobile lab will aid plant disease detection in Nebraska.** Plant disease detection is on a roll in Nebraska. Thanks to funding from the Department of Homeland Security and University of Nebraska Extension, a new mobile lab is giving Extension the ability to diagnose crop diseases on-site. The lab is equipped with the latest technology and equipment, including molecular diagnostic tools and satellite transmission to allow the University of Nebraska to inform state and federal agencies quickly about detection of any disease as well as link them to national experts. "The goal of the mobile lab is to be available to respond to any potential agrosecurity threat," says Loren Giesler, plant pathologist

in the university's Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources. This includes detecting and reporting new or unusual pathogens in Nebraska crops whether they occur intentionally, accidentally, or naturally. The lab also will be available at University Extension field days in the state for farmers to bring in plant samples.

Source: http://www.agriculture.com/ag/story.jhtml?storyid=/templatedata/ag/story/data/AgNews_050926crMOBILE.xml&catref=ag1001

18. *September 23, Reuters* — **Greening disease spreads in Brazil orange crop.** Greening disease has showed up in 80 municipalities in southeast Brazil, the world's number one orange producer, up from 64 cases in August, crop researchers Fundecitrus said on Friday, September 23. Greening has no cure and can cause severe losses in yields in most citrus varieties if left unchecked. It is spread by bacteria carried by a small flying insect and has destroyed millions of acres in Thailand, China, and South Africa. Trees must be destroyed as soon as they show symptoms, to avoid the disease's spreading. More than 260,000 orange trees have been destroyed since greening was first detected in the Brazilian crop in June, 2004.

Source: http://today.reuters.com/news/newsarticle.aspx?type=scienceNews&storyid=2005-09-23T195654Z_01_YUE371791_RTRUKOC_0_US-FOOD-BRAZIL-ORANGE.xml

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Food Sector

19. *September 27, Local10 (FL)* — **Smoked fish spread recalled.** Nearly a thousand containers of Cajun Smoked Fish Spread made by Ultra Foods are now recalled because of fears that the spread may be contaminated with Listeria. The 10-ounce containers are sold under the brand name "Island Stylin'" and are sold in South Florida stores.

Source: <http://www.local10.com/news/5025246/detail.html>

20. *September 26, Food and Drug Administration* — **Food Code updates food safety guidelines.** The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is issuing the 2005 edition of the Food Code, which contains the latest science-based information on food safety for retail and food service industries. The Food Code is used as a reference by nearly 3,000 regulatory agencies that oversee food safety in restaurants, grocery stores, nursing homes, and other institutional and retail settings. "This year's Food Code not only includes the best practices for the retail and food service industries but it also provides valuable resources on food defense that will assist in protecting Americans against threats to the food supply," said FDA's Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition Director Robert Brackett. In collaboration with the Conference for Food Protection, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and U.S. Department of Agriculture, the updated Food Code focuses on enhancing food safety practices based on new scientific and programmatic information. Local, state, tribal, and federal regulators voluntarily use the Food Code as a model to develop or update their own food safety rules and to maintain consistency and uniformity with national food regulatory policy.

2005 Food Code: <http://www.cfsan.fda.gov/~dms/fc05-toc.html>

Source: <http://www.fda.gov/bbs/topics/news/2005/new01235.html>

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Water Sector

21. *September 27, Hartford Courant (CT)* — City plans to expand testing on water supply.

Bristol, CT, will perform extra tests on the public water supply for the next two months, but officials say they may never determine what caused the contamination discovered the week of September 18. Mayor Gerard Couture ordered the water department to conduct twice-weekly tests of its water supply to alert officials if the contamination returns. That is double the frequency of the regular testing schedule. The water department is still reviewing last week's test results and trying to determine why there were signs of coliform bacteria. Test results received on Wednesday, September 21, indicated the presence of coliform and a low-grade strain of *E. coli* in the water. Following state health department procedures, the city ordered a second round of tests immediately to verify those results. The results Friday, September 23, showed coliform but no *E. coli*.

Source: <http://www.courant.com/news/local/hc-briwater0927.artsep27.0.4616432.story?coll=hc-headlines-local>

22. *September 25, Arizona Republic* — Towns urged to balance growth, water. Arizona communities need to do a better job of balancing growth with water supplies, and state leaders should be prepared to offer those communities whatever help they need, according to a nonpartisan research group that studied the issue. The group, ThinkAZ, concluded that while local leaders may not want to discourage growth, they will face chronic water shortages if they continue to allow development beyond the resources they have available. The study's other authors suggest several possible fixes, such as giving local officials more authority in regulating growth, but they say state lawmakers must also commit to stable funding for the state water resources department. The ThinkAz report used case studies of three Arizona communities to analyze needs and potential problems in mostly rural areas of the state. Payson faces impending shortages as it tries to meet growing demand with a tapped-out water supply. Unregulated wells in Yavapai County threaten future supplies for fast-growing Prescott Valley. Buckeye, whose land area could someday rival Phoenix, will find itself competing with other cities for an already limited pool of water.

An Analysis of the Water Budgets of Buckeye, Payson, and Prescott Valley:

<http://www.thinkaz.org/documents/AnAnalysisoftheWaterBudgets.pdf>

Source: http://www.azcentral.com/arizonarepublic/local/articles/0925_waterstudy.html

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Public Health Sector

23. *September 27, Reuters* — Singapore scientists invent quick bird flu test. Scientists in Singapore said on Tuesday, September 27, they have developed a test kit which can detect bird flu infections in poultry within four hours — a tool which could help health officials control the spread of the deadly virus. In the absence of a vaccine, early identification of the virus is especially important, and current tests used by laboratories take two to three days and sometimes up to a week. "The faster you are able to detect the H5N1, the earlier you can impose some kind of isolation procedure and the faster poultry can be culled to prevent the

spread of the virus," Ren Ee Chee, a professor at the Genome Institute of Singapore who led the research team, told Reuters. The virus has killed 65 people in four Asian nations since late 2003, and has forced the culling of millions of birds. "We have tested on over a hundred avian samples in Vietnam and Malaysia. So far, the accuracy rate is 100 percent," Ren said, adding the kits were designed to identify the gene specific to the H5N1 strain, so they would be able to detect bird flu infections in both animals and humans. The team is currently testing the kits on human samples.

Source: http://in.today.reuters.com/news/newsArticle.aspx?type=worldNews&storyID=2005-09-27T161920Z_01_NOOTR_RTRJONC_0_India-217483-1.xml

24. *September 27, Reuters* — **Association of Southeast Asian Nation may launch joint fund to combat bird flu.** Southeast Asian agriculture officials approved on Tuesday, September 27, the creation of a regional fund and a special task force to help fight the spread of bird flu in the region, seen as the most likely epicenter of a human outbreak. The measures were among several endorsed by senior Association of Southeast Asian Nation (ASEAN) agriculture officials meeting in the Philippines. The proposals still need to be approved by agriculture ministers when they join the meeting on Thursday, September 29. Experts say a lack of funds is hampering the fight against bird flu in Asian countries. Bird flu has killed 66 people in four Asian countries since late 2003 and has been found in birds in Russia and Europe. Millions of birds have also been destroyed. The virus could set off a pandemic if it gains the ability to be transmitted easily between humans. ASEAN comprises Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam.

Source: <http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/MAN113587.htm>

25. *September 26, Associated Press* — **Doctors in training miss bioterror diagnoses.** Doctors in training misdiagnosed diseases caused by bioterrorism more than half the time on a multiple choice test, but a Web-based training program improved their skills, a study has found. If there were an actual attack, doctors' failure to isolate contagious patients with smallpox or plague could increase the number of victims. "The risk of spread goes up logarithmically," said study co-author Stephen Sisson of Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. The lesson of the 2001 anthrax attacks, when at least four patients first were sent home without a diagnosis, has not yet been learned, Sisson said. States and medical residency programs should require bioterrorism training for doctors, he said. The study involved 631 doctors, mostly medical residents — doctors still in training — in 30 internal medicine residency programs in 16 states and Washington, DC. The doctors took a pretest, completed an online course and then took another test. On the pretest, half the doctors misdiagnosed botulism; 84 percent misdiagnosed plague. A case of routine chickenpox was misdiagnosed by 42 percent of the doctors as smallpox. After the online training, the doctors' correct diagnoses averaged almost 80 percent. Before the training, correct answers averaged 47 percent.

Research Report: <http://archinte.ama-assn.org/cgi/content/full/165/17/2002>

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2005/09/26/AR2005092600977.html>

26. *September 26, Associated Press* — **Katrina displaces nearly 6,000 doctors.** Nearly 6,000 doctors along the Gulf Coast were uprooted by Hurricane Katrina in the largest displacement of physicians in U.S. history. "We don't know what this is going to mean to health care," said Thomas Ricketts, who led the study by researchers at the University of North Carolina-Chapel

Hill. "We've never had to deal with something like this before." Ricketts' study found that 5,944 doctors were displaced in the 10 counties and parishes in Louisiana and Mississippi that were directly affected by Katrina-related flooding. That number covers doctors caring for patients, not those who are administrators or researchers. The finding is based on an analysis of American Medical Association data from March, information posted by the Federal Emergency Management Agency and other records. More than two-thirds of the doctors displaced, or 4,486, came from the immediate New Orleans parishes of Orleans, Jefferson, and St. Bernard. More than half were specialists, with 1,292 in primary care and 272 in obstetrics and gynecology. Ricketts believes it is likely many doctors won't return. "This is both an opportunity for places that need physicians, as well as a dire problem for the population that will remain."

Source: http://www.sunherald.com/mld/sunherald/living/health/1274778_4.htm

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Government Sector

Nothing to report.

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Emergency Services Sector

27. *September 27, Daily Breeze (CA)* — **Los Angeles' disaster readiness is evaluated.** Close relationships with local and state law enforcement has put Los Angeles in a good position to deal with a major disaster, but the city still falls short on emergency preparedness in some respects, a city panel was told Monday, September 26. The city can count on help from the rest of the California, emergency officials said, but local hospitals are vulnerable and police and fire departments lack important communications equipment. Still, the strong support that Los Angeles can expect from other governments in California is a big advantage, said Ellis Stanley, general manager of the city's Emergency Preparedness Department. He praised the state's mutual aid program, which codifies how local emergency responders work together on a statewide level and is reinforced by massive exercises. Nevertheless, emergency management representatives conceded that local preparedness has shortfalls. "The thing that gives me nightmares is we have hospitals that have not been retrofitted" to protect them in a strong earthquake, Stanley said. The Los Angeles Police Department has several concerns, Deputy Chief Michael Hillman said. In a severe power outage with phone lines down, he speculated, police would rely on batteries and BlackBerrys because the department doesn't have enough satellite phones.

Source: <http://www.dailybreeze.com/news/articles/1755996.html>

28. *September 27, The Weekly (GA)* — **Hospitals, health agencies, ham operators, and law enforcement test response to major health emergency in Atlanta.** In a test of preparedness for a wide-area health emergency, several hospitals, health agencies and law enforcement agencies, along with the Gwinnett, GA, Amateur Radio Emergency Service (Gwinnett ARES), are conducting a test response to a simulated health emergency affecting much of North Georgia. As was demonstrated in the response to Hurricane Katrina, the only reliable form of

communications immediately following major disasters is amateur "ham" radio. Much of this disaster drill will focus on the capability of Gwinnett ARES to establish and maintain emergency communications for and between the participating agencies. Among the communications capabilities of ARES to be tested will be voice and data (radio e-mail) using ham radio systems. One special feature will be the testing of an airborne ham radio relay system. This exercise will test the response and inter-agency communications capabilities of the participants as they deal with a simulated disaster. Agencies participating in this drill include: Gwinnett County Fire & Emergency, Athens Regional Emergency Operations Center (EOC), Centers for Disease Control, Oconee County RACES, Clarke County Emergency Management Agency, Dekalb County ARES, NE Georgia Public Health EOC, Emory Eastside Medical Center, Gwinnett Sheriff's Department, Gwinnett County Police Department, and the East Metro Health District.

Source: http://www.theweekly.com/news/2005/September/27/response_test.html

29. *September 27, Newsday (NY)* — **New York to update crisis network.** As the hurricanes in the Gulf Coast draw more attention to emergency preparedness, New York has inked a record \$2 billion deal to update its emergency communications system, the first overhaul in more than three decades. The system will be phased in regionally through 2010, but when fully implemented it will allow state and local first responders to communicate across disparate networks. "The system has aged," said Rob Roddy, a spokesperson for the State Office for Technology. "There are areas with no coverage," he added. Instead of relying on new towers, low-profile antennas or existing buildings and telephone poles will be used. New York will pay the bill for the updated crisis network over the course of 20 years.

Source: <http://www.newsday.com/news/local/state/ny-stwire274444677sep27.0.7227442.story?coll=ny-statenews-headlines>

30. *September 26, Courier Post Online (NJ)* — **Six hundred people put New Jersey's response plan to the test.** Approximately 600 people took part in New Jersey's Topover 15 drill Sunday, September 25. The emergency response exercise was intended to help 30 local, county and state agencies test plans to respond to a variety of hazards, including terrorism. There were minor glitches, such as when one of the command centers outside Lockheed Martin was too close to the victims, causing them to hypothetically contaminate the area as they approached. According to the exercise's script, the president visited Philadelphia on Sunday and the national threat level had been raised to orange. A second call reported that a small plane violated federal air space and was forced to land at the South Jersey Regional Airport in Lumberton, NJ. The myriad agencies managed to coordinate efforts well, said Kevin Tuno, the county's emergency management coordinator. The drill tested the preparedness of more than 10 fire companies, 20 emergency medical services agencies, four school districts, three municipal public works departments, two hospitals and about a dozen other entities. Tuno's office and other agencies will continue evaluating the day's events, however, with findings scheduled to be compiled into a report by November 16.

Source: <http://www.courierpostonline.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20050926/NEWS01/509260345/1006>

31. *September 26, Department of Homeland Security* — **Federal Gulf Coast response to hurricanes Katrina and Rita.** The Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), in conjunction with other federal agencies, continues to respond

to Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. The following actions have been taken: a) U.S. Coast Guard units have rescued more than 124 people in Louisiana following Hurricane Rita; b) Since announcing a new housing program on Friday, September 23, FEMA has distributed \$625 million dollars for transitional housing assistance to 265,000 applicants; c) More than 4,000 Coast Guard, 12,000 FEMA, and 2,500 federal law enforcement personnel have been deployed to support Hurricanes Katrina and Rita relief operations; d) There are a total of nearly 700 FEMA Urban Search and Rescue personnel on the ground in Louisiana; e) More than 52,000 Active Duty and National Guard personnel are on the ground or aboard ships supporting relief operations; f) There are 1,099 shelters housing 154,252 evacuees of hurricanes Katrina and Rita nationwide; g) The Department of Defense (DoD) evacuated more than 3,200 people, including 1,300 medical patients and 1,300 ambulatory/elderly evacuees, from Houston, Beaumont, TX, and Lake Charles, LA, to nine locations. DoD's aviation support in the affected area includes 169 helicopters and 38 fixed wing aircraft.

Source: <http://www.dhs.gov/dhspublic/display?content=4859>

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Information Technology and Telecommunications Sector

32. *September 27, USA Today* — **BitTorrent gets 8.75M from venture capital firm.** BitTorrent has raised 8.75M from venture capital from DCM–Dell Capital Management. BitTorrent is a developed of popular software programs that are used in acquiring free video and other large files on the internet.

Source: http://www.usatoday.com/tech/products/services/2005-09-26-bit-torrent-capital_x.htm. Yahoo http://news.yahoo.com/s/usatoday/20050927/tc_usatoday/bittorrentgets875mfromventurecapitalfirm: ylt=AtrHsdKljOy38QAv9MFKJOys0NUE; ylu=X3oDMTA3cjE0b2MwBHNIYwM3Mzg-

33. *September 26, Secunia* — **Netscape multiple vulnerabilities.** Vulnerabilities have been discovered in Netscape 8.x. They can be exploited to manipulate data, conduct spoofing attacks, bypass certain security restrictions and potentially compromise a vulnerable system.

Source: <http://secunia.com/advisories/16944/>

34. *September 26, Security News Portal* — **Phishers target Yahoo! Photos.** Phishing attacker are attempting to capture a user's Yahoo! ID and password by sending out fake sign-in pages. Users are receiving an email or instant message that claims to be from a friend wanting to show off photos. The message contains a link to a phishing site, which records the user's Yahoo! ID and password, and then forwards the Yahoo! ID and password on to the real Yahoo! Photos site.

Source: http://www.snpx.com/cgi-bin/news55.cgi?target=110977854?-262_2

Internet Alert Dashboard

DHS/US-CERT Watch Synopsis

Over the preceding 24 hours, there has been no cyber activity which constitutes an unusual and significant threat to Homeland Security, National Security, the Internet, or the Nation's critical infrastructures.

US-CERT Operations Center Synopsis: US-CERT is aware of public exploit code for a buffer overflow vulnerability in Mozilla products, including the Mozilla Suite, and Mozilla Firefox. For more information please refer to:

<http://www.us-cert.gov/current/#mozbuff>

US-CERT warns users to expect an increase in targeted phishing emails due to recent events such as Hurricane Katrina and Hurricane Rita. For more information please refer to:

<http://www.us-cert.gov/current/#kat>

US-CERT strongly recommends that all users reference the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Website for a list of legitimate charities to donate to their charity of choice: <http://www.fema.gov/>

Current Port Attacks

Top 10 Target Ports	1026 (win-rpc), 26777 (---), 6881 (bittorrent), 445 (microsoft-ds), 40000 (---), 139 (netbios-ssn), 135 (epmap), 6346 (gnutella-svc), 6999 (iatp-normalpri), 55321 (---)
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Source: <http://isc.incidents.org/top10.html>; Internet Storm Center

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Website: www.us-cert.gov.

Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Website: <https://www.it-isac.org/>.

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Commercial Facilities/Real Estate, Monument & Icons Sector

Nothing to report.

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General Sector

35. *September 27, Associated Press* — **Report: Illegal immigration has increased.** The pace of illegal immigration to the United States has increased despite tighter security measures and it generally parallels the pace of economic growth and the availability of jobs, a report said Tuesday, September 27. The report by the Pew Hispanic Center also found that the stronger security steps since the terror attacks of September 11, 2001 have had the effect of reducing legal immigration. Overall, immigration to the United States declined along with the economy after 2000, but the report says the number of people trying to get into the country is on the upswing again. The report documents immigration levels from 1992 to 2004, generating estimates from a variety of Census data. The report acknowledges weaknesses in the data, especially when it comes to estimating annual changes in the number of illegal immigrants

trying to enter the country. The Pew Hispanic Center is a nonpartisan research organization supported by the Pew Charitable Trusts.

Report: <http://pewhispanic.org/>

Source: http://www.boston.com/news/nation/washington/articles/2005/09/27/report_illegal_immigration_has_increased/

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Contact DHS

To report physical infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact the National Infrastructure Coordinating Center at nicc@dhs.gov or (202) 282–9201.

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US–CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Web page at www.us-cert.gov.

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